

REMARKS

Claims 63-73 and 75 remain pending in this application. Additionally, new claims 76-82 have been added and claims 63, 67, and 75, have been amended. Claims 63-73 and 75-82 are pending in the present application.

As noted in paragraph 11 of the Office Action dated August 30, 2004, the Examiner suggested that the Applicants add a flowchart to best support the claims. Applicants respectfully assert that the originally filed drawings adequately support all of the claims provided in the present invention. However, in the interest of expediency, and in the spirit of cooperation, Applicants have added Figure 7A (to Sheet number 9) as per the Examiner's suggestion. Figure 7A provides a flowchart associated with a plurality of steps performed by the microsequencer and refers to specific elements illustrated by remaining drawings. Figure 7A comports with the originally filed description, drawings, and claims. In other words, the newly added figure (Figure 7A) only calls for subject matter that has been previously disclosed in the originally filed drawings, specification, and/or claims. Therefore, the newly added figure (Figure 7A) does not add any new matter to the specification. Additionally, a description that corresponds with the newly added Figure 7A has been added to the specification. However, no new matter has been added to the specification as a result of the new added description. The newly added description tracks the newly added Figure 7A, which is not new matter, and does not add any new matter to the patent application. Sheet number 9 of the Figures has been replaced as a result of the amendment to the drawings.

The Examiner rejected claim 73 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner states that there is insufficient antecedent basis for "the

second instruction" in the claim. Claim 73 has been amended to now depend from claim 69, which calls for a "second instruction," therefore, the term "second instruction" in claim 73 now has sufficient antecedent basis. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that this rejection is now moot and claim 73 is now allowable.

The Examiner rejected claims 63, 67, and 75 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Regarding paragraph number 4 and 5 in the Office Action dated August 30, 2004, Applicants respectfully assert that in light of the amendments made to claims 63, 67, and 75, there is no inconsistency between Applicants' specification and the claims. Claims 63, 67, and 75 (as amended) call for loading the instruction pointer with the loop instruction pointer value associated with a subsequent loop level in response to the remaining number of iterations for the loop level equaling zero. In light of the arguments and amendments provided herein, Applicants respectfully assert that all of the Examiner's rejections to claims 63-73 and 75, mentioned in paragraphs 4-8 have been addressed and overcome. Accordingly, claims 63-75 and 75 are now allowable.

Independent claims 63, 67, and 75, are allowable for at least the reasons cited above. Additionally, dependent claims 62-65, 68-74, which respectfully depend from claims 63 and 67, are also allowable for at least the reasons cited above. Furthermore, newly added claims 76-82 are also allowable for at least the reasons cited above.

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

In light of the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 63-73 and 75 are allowable. Furthermore, newly added claims 76-82 are also allowable. In light of the arguments presented above, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

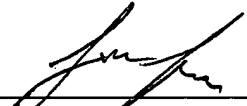
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Houston, Texas telephone number (713) 934-40 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON, P.C.
CUSTOMER NO. 23720

Date: October 12, 2004

By: _____


Jason C. John, Reg. No. 50,737
10333 Richmond, Suite 1100
Houston, Texas 77042
(713) 934-7000
(713) 934-7011 (facsimile)
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

IN THE DRAWINGS

Although the Examiner states on page 1 of the Office Action that the drawings filed on July 24, 2001 had been accepted, the Examiner objects to the drawings on page 3 of the Office Action. In response to the Examiner's objections cited on pages 3-4 of the Office Action dated August 30, 2004, Figure 7A has been added as per Examiner's suggestion. However, no new subject matter has been added as a result of this amendment. Sheet number 9 of the Figures has been replaced as a result of the amendment to the drawings.